

Assessing and Restoring the Deer Creek Watershed

Proposed Project

The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe and the Friends of Deer Creek propose to work with area leaders and scientists to develop a plan for assessing and restoring the larger Deer Creek watershed, and to infuse any watershed restoration work with cultural and historic sensitivity. This work will be based on seven years of water quality, land use and restoration data, while also deeply informed by cultural and historical knowledge of the area.

A Deer Creek restoration plan exists for the upper two-thirds of the watershed, but needs to be revised and extended to the lower third of the watershed, which bears the cumulative impacts from upstream development, before it can serve as an effective tool for watershed restoration. SNC funding would be used to assess this existing plan, complete it to include the entire watershed, and prioritize implementation projects.

Key Tasks

Working in partnership, the Tsi-Akim Tribe and Friends of Deer Creek will:

- I. Complete a Watershed Plan for the entire Deer Creek watershed including all scientific, cultural, environmental, economic and demographic factors. The watershed plan requires two activities to make it complete:
 1. Review the existing plan with the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe
 2. Extend the plan to include the lower watershed
- II. Formulate an implementation strategy for the watershed plan that highlights specific restoration projects, project partners, and funding opportunities.

Project Budget

The budget for this 9-month planning project is \$75,000. This includes \$40,000 for Friends of Deer Creek researching and writing the plan, \$30,000 for outreach and engagement of the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe members, leaders and scientists, and \$5,000 for administrative support.

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